

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MONTRE 01086 041921Z

54

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 /040 W
----- 005188

R 041835Z AUG 76

FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7828

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS MONTREAL 1086

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR ECON CA

SUBJECT: PRESS REACTION: STUDY ON US-CANADA RELATIONS

REF: MONTREAL 1042

1. REFTEL AND PREVIOUS REPORTED ON MONTREAL PRESS REACTION TO CANADIAN-AMERICAN COMMITTEE REPORT ENTITLED "A TIME OF DIFFICULT TRANSITIONS: CANADA-US RELATIONS IN 1976." LA TRIBUNE OF SHERBROOKE, A REGIONAL DAILY WHICH SERVES THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS AREA OF THE PROVINCE, CARRIED A LENGTHY AND INTERESTING EDITORIAL IN ITS EDITION OF JULY 29. THE COMMITTEE REPORT SHOWS, WRITES LA TRIBUNE, THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE COUNTRIES HAVE REACHED A POINT OF SERIOUS TENSION, WITH NO IMPROVEMENT IN SIGHT. THIS CONCLUSION SURPRISES NO ONE. RECENT EVENTS, SUCH AS THE TIME AND CABLE TV AFFAIRS ILLUSTRATE WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO OUR RELATIONS WHICH WERE FORMERLY SO FRIENDLY OR "SO FLATLY SUBMISSIVE". REAL FRIENDSHIP, FOR CANADA, MUST BE BASED ON EQUALITY. THE COMMITTEE'S STUDY READS LIKE A CASE IN FAVOR OF US SUPREMACY AND AGAINST CANADA'S DESIRE FOR AUTONOMY. CANADA IS TOO MUCH AT THE MERCY OF US ECONOMIC POWER. BUT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, ADDS LA TRIBUNE, ARE COMPLICATED BY "PROVINCIALIZATION". INCREASINGLY, THE CANADIAN POSITION VIS-A-VIS THE US DEPENDS ON INTERNAL RELATIONS BETWEEN OTTAWA AND THE PROVINCES. PROVINCIAL AUTONOMY IN CERTAIN AREAS, REGIONAL ECONOMIC DISPARITIES, AND CHALLENGES TO CANADIAN UNITY ALL COMPLICATE EXTERNAL RELATIONS. CANADA'S SEARCH FOR A NATIONAL
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MONTRE 01086 041921Z

IDENTITY SPARKS A DEFENSIVE REFLEX AGAINST THE "OVERLY

ENCROACHING NEIGHBOR". THAT IS WHY CANADA RELIES HEAVILY ON THE RECENT AGREEMENT WITH THE EEC TO LESSEN ITS DEPENDENCE ON THE US. THE AGREEMENT DEMONSTRATES THAT WE CAN NOW DISTINGUISH MORE CLEARLY CANADIAN INTERESTS FROM US INTERESTS. WHAT CANADA MAY LOSE IN GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE US WILL BE COMPENSATED FOR BY RELATIONS WITH EUROPE. AMERICANS CAN WELL BE SHOCKED BY THE DETERIORATION OF OUR RELATONS. BUT THEY MUST REALIZE THEY NEED US AS MUCH AS WE NEED THEM AND THAT ONLY FRIENDSHIP BASED ON EQUALITY CAN PROSPER. IN THE LONG RUN, THESE NEIGHBORS WHO ARE "OUR BEST ALLIES AND OUR BEST CLIENTS" WILL ONLY BENEFIT FROM CANADA'S DESIRE FOR INDEPENDENCE, ASSUMING THEY WANT OUR RELATIONS TO REMAIN STRONG. BECAUSE, LA TRIBUNE CONCLUDES, "THE REAL STRENGTH OF A COMMON MARKET DEPENDS ULTIMATELY ON THE STRENGTH OF ITS WEAKEST MEMBER."
HARPER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, ENERGY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MONTRE01086
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760301-0402
From: MONTREAL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760885/aaaacwzc.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MONTREAL 1042
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 APR 2004 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <09 DEC 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS REACTION: STUDY ON US-CANADA RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, ECON, CA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006